

The Conservation Trust for St Laurence, Ludlow

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS



AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Trustees have great plans for the New Year, but before we tell you about them, we thought you would like a quick journey through 2010. As you will remember, our year began in MARCH, when a coffee morning at 2 Bell Cottages, Ludford, raised **£300.00**.

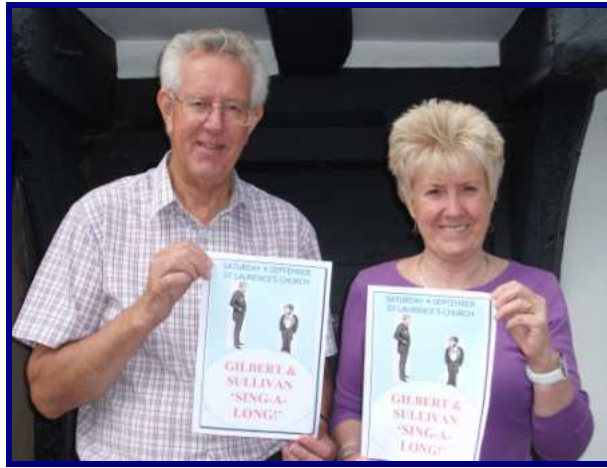
In JUNE, a Street Collection raised **£580.00**. And at the Annual Meeting, Retiring Chairman Helen Coleman introduced her successor, Bill Lloyd-Kitchen. We thank Helen, former Treasurer Michael Hunt and retiring Trustees Dr Jen Davies and Claire Wilcox. And welcome new Treasurer, Michael Page, and three new Trustees: Karole Nicholson, Andrew Pike and Hugh Wood, who join existing Trustees, John Aitken, Elizabeth Bennett, Ewart Carson, Bill Eastwell, Julian Morgan, Maureen Stinton, and Rosemary Wood.

In JULY, our highly successful 'Pimms and Poems' evening at Millichope Park raised over **£1,200**, whilst in September, our

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN 'SING-ALONG' RAISED £1098.00!

45 local singers rehearsed for three nights to ensure a rousing chorus accompanied the audience at the highly successful Gilbert and Sullivan Sing-Along in St Laurence's Church on Saturday 4 September. Organisers, husband and wife team, baritone Hugh Wood and mezzo-soprano Doris, worked tirelessly on the event, with Doris taking on the duties of conductor when Eileen Day was unable to take on this role. Soloists were St Laurence's vergers, baritone Joe Brennan, soprano Katherine Bromley, and Tenbury Operatic Society members, soprano Ellie Peberdy; tenor Allan Grainger; and baritone John Caldwell.

Hugh, a Trustee of the Conservation Trust, had selected two operas, so that Master of Ceremonies, Michael Evans, could easily recount the story of each one. "We chose HMS Pinafore and Mikado; our pianists, Steve Dunachie and Darren Hogg, were magnificent, and our audience sang along lustily, responding to the vocal cues which were printed in a well-produced booklet."



Organisers: Trustee Hugh and Conductor Doris

'ILLUSTRATED ART LECTURES' WERE 'AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS!'

Led by Trustee and art historian, Elizabeth Bennett, and held in her own home in Broad Street, the highly successful series of illustrated lectures was unanimously voted a winner by everyone attending.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Fig 1: Attendees at the lectures: L-r: June Day, Elizabeth Bennett, Julian Morgan, Sue Coleman-Smith

Fig. 2 :Back row, l-r: Barbara Ross, Jane Hunt, Elizabeth Bennett, Marie Heatley.

Front row: Marguerite Unsworth, Brian and Margaret Dickson

"We were oversubscribed almost as soon as our first publicity appeared," explained Elizabeth. "Everyone who registered said how friendly and informative the sessions were, and we are therefore staging a second series, beginning on Thursday 13 January. The course is limited to 12 people, and costs £12 for the full programme of four sessions.

PROGRAMME

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| 1. | Thursday 13 January | Monet and his garden at Giverny |
| 2. | Thursday 20 January | What to see in Bruges |
| 3. | Thursday 27 January | Ideal Homes: Dutch painting in the 17th century |
| 4. | Thursday 3 February | London's oldest art gallery: the story of Dulwich Picture Gallery |

The timetable for each session is: 1000
1030 - 11.30
1130 - 12.00

Coffee and biscuits
Presentation
Discussion

Contact Elizabeth on 01584 873302 bennett441@btinternet.com
to reserve your place

THE DAVID LLOYD MEMORIAL APPEAL

Over £9000.00 has been received for the David Lloyd Memorial Appeal, and the Trust will shortly issue a report on the probable costs and timetable for restoration work to the medieval reredos in the North Aisle, undertaken as a tribute to David and his immense contribution to St Laurence's over the years.

"Whilst we are confident the Appeal has brought in sufficient funds to cover the estimated cost of the work, we are aware that the final expenditure may be more than originally thought", said Trust Chairman, Bill Lloyd-Kitchen. "But on the assumption that some money will be available, we will liaise with the Fabric Committee of the PCC, to ascertain what other essential work needs attention, and then circulate our findings, before suggesting how the financial residue could be spent".

"For instance, the chancel reredos is in need of urgent attention. Some sections need repointing and repainting, and the final effect should be stunning, when the original gilding above the statues has been transformed to its former glory through cleaning." Bill continued, "This could be a suitable project to be implemented in David's memory, as could remedying the deterioration to the ceiling of the Parvis Room. Both the reredos and the Parvis Room were special to David, and we welcome suggestions regarding the possible allocation of funds to these and other projects/areas within the church."



When restored and cleaned, the gilding on the reredos will once again shine out gloriously

AND SO TO 2011

The Trust is planning a number of events, including a Coffee Morning, a Quiz Evening, a Street Collection, a series of Guided Walks – 'In David's Footsteps', and a lecture on "Siluria – the lost ocean of the Marches". And we are also creating two completely new events.

The first will be 'The Conservation Weekend', and the second a social evening of food, drink, song and verse, created in conjunction with The Housman Society to celebrate the life and work of the celebrated poet, A E Housman, who in addition to his well known works, also penned comic verse.

In 2011, The Conservation Trust will concentrate on the restoration and conservation of the many magnificent monuments in St Laurence's.

The Conservation Weekend on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 May will be a major fund-raising event to contribute towards the £27,000 urgently needed to achieve this task. The Trust is delighted to be working in co-operation with its sponsors: Grinshill Quarry, the Ludlow Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Ludlow Civic Society, Ludlow Town Council, The Bull Hotel and Treasure and Son

THE CONSERVATION WEEKEND
- incorporating a Stone Carving Festival
Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 May 2011



Dame Mary Eure, whose monument of 1612 is in need of tender, loving care!

We intend the weekend to include:

- Illustrated Talks in the Church, Conservation Walks through the Town, Guided Tours of the Church
- A Stone Carving Festival in the Church grounds and a Children's Area in the Marquee
- Floral Displays in the Church
- The History of St Laurence's Paved Garden: Medieval Plants – Culinary, Medicinal, and Mythical
- Prize Giving Ceremony for the Best Carving and Auction of the Carvings

Stone masons working on cathedrals and ancient buildings throughout the country are being invited to join us in Ludlow to demonstrate their skills. Visitors will have the opportunity of watching the masons at work, and bidding for the completed carvings at an auction on Sunday afternoon. The Trust is indebted to Grinshill Stone Quarry at Shrewsbury for donating the stone for the masons to work on. There will also be demonstrations of brick making, using local clay, stained glass restoration, and other traditional craft skills,

There will be food, music and entertainment throughout the weekend, and we hope to attract visitors from the surrounding counties as well as local residents and Trust supporters.

"We are setting up a number of small working committees, each with its own area of responsibility", said Trustee, Rosemary Wood. "We welcome support, and would be delighted if anyone willing to be involved in this exciting initiative could contact me on 01584 877771, or email rosemary.wood3@virgin.net.

The programme for the Illustrated Talks, Walks and Guided Tours on Saturday 21 May has been finalised. The morning seminar features historic buildings researcher, Duncan James, talking about **Decorative Features of the Timber-framed Buildings of Ludlow**; Stephen Treasure, Managing Director of Treasure and Son, outlining the **Conservation Work recently undertaken on No. 27 Broad Street, Ludlow**, and Simon Buteux, Consultant Archaeologist and owner of **the Reader's House, presenting a case history on its Conservation and Restoration.**"

The afternoon brings a series of Conservation Walks in the town, and Guided Tours of the church. "We are delighted to be working with members of the Ludlow Historical Research Group", said Trustee, Rosemary Wood. "Our conservation tours will be led by Michael Page, Michael Rosenbaum and Jonathan Wood, from the LHRG, and Colin Richards, MBE, Head of Historical Environment at Shropshire Council, will not only lead one of the tours, but also stage a demonstration of brick-making, using local clay."

Trust supporter Carol Turner, Verger Joe Brennan and Elizabeth Bennett of The Conservation Trust will be Guides on the Church tours, covering 'The History of the Church' and 'Stained Glass in St Laurence's' respectively. And the evening concludes with food, drink and music in the Great Marquee – but that's another story!"

Anyone wishing to receive a Programme/Registration form for the Illustrated Talks, Walks and Guided Tours should contact Rosemary Wood on 01584 877771 or email rosemary.wood3@virgin.net. And all offers of help with the Conservation Weekend, both physical and financial, will be gratefully received!